

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BNT 533 Studies in the Letters of Paul: Romans

Benny C. Aker, PhD

Fall 2005
Wed 10:30-1:15

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Romans, if not the most important book of the Bible, certainly ranks among the top. It teaches about faith, salvation, revelation, justification, sin and its consequences, suffering, Israel's place among the redeemed, eschatology, body ministry and community life, Christian and state relationships, and Christian ethics. This class will examine these themes by considering the social, historical, and literary context in the context of its structure.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course the student should be able to:

1. Interpret and apply Romans more effectively in personal life and ministry in light of its historical, social, and literary contexts;
2. Reflect a greater commitment to serve God professionally, socially, and personally;
3. Respond more efficiently to societal issues that life and ministry presents
4. Articulate the background and contents of Romans.

TEXTBOOKS

Required

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Romans*. ECNT. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

Recommended

Donfried, Karl P. *The Romans Debate: Revised and Expanded*. Peabody, MA: Hendrikson, 1991.

BASIC OUTLINE

Of Special note:

Chapel services: 9/28/05 10:30-11:45
 11/16/05 10:30-11:45

Study week: October 24-29.

Block 1

Syllabus/orientation

Introduction to Romans

Read *Romans* pp. 1-27.

Also the student will benefit from consulting Donfried, K.P., ed. *The Romans Debate*.

Rev. and Exp. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1991.

Block 2A

Interpretation of the text: Read the appropriate material, including the particular biblical text to be examined on a particular day, from the textbook. Have in mind the outline of the passage under discussion for that day and be prepared to discuss its interpretation.

Block 2B

Students will choose in advance paragraphs to present in class. A lesson plan should be prepared in advance and presented to the instructor. The plan should include the outline of the presentation in class: 1) introduction; 2) outline of the biblical passage; 3) an outline developing the class presentation; and 4) a bibliography. The presentation should last about thirty minutes. Discussion will take up the rest of the class time. As soon as assignments are determined the schedule of them will be prepared and given to each class member.

METHODOLOGY

1. Reading, research, and writing.
2. Lectures and discussion.
3. Examination.
4. Class presentations

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance (cf. AGTS policy).
2. Contribution to class discussion.
3. Presentation of a biblical passage in class.
4. Reading of all textbook material prior to the class for which it is scheduled.
5. A 15-20 page interpretive paper on a paragraph in Romans. This can be on the same passage as that presented in class (expanded and revised). **DUE DECEMBER 7.**
6. Final Exam: December 14.

GRADING

1. Presentation: 100 points
2. Examination 100 points
3. Paper 100 points

Total number of points: 300

Averaged number of points and appropriate percentage:

Publishable	=A+
94-100%	=A
90- 93%	=A-
87- 89%	=B+
84- 86%	=B
80- 83%	=B-
77- 79%	=C+
74- 76%	=C
70- 73%	=C-
67-69%	=D+
64- 66%	=D
60-63%	=D-

The examination will be essay in nature and should reflect good organization, a knowledge of the structure of Romans, content in terms of key words, theological themes, and views from textbook (and where appropriate outside reading).

Late papers may be penalized at the rate of 5 points per day.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Commentaries

Achtemeier, Paul. *Romans*. Interpretation Commentaries. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1985.

Boers, Hendrikus. *The Justification of the Gentiles: Paul's Letters to the Galatians and Romans*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1994

Barrett, C. K. *A Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*. Harper's NT Commentaries. New York: Harper & Row, 1957.

Barth, Karl. *The Epistle to the Romans*. Tr. Edwyn C. Hoskyns. London: Oxford University Press, 1933.

Black, M. *Romans*. New Century Bible Commentary. London: Marshall, Morgan and Scott, 1973.

Bruce, F. F. *Romans*. Rev. ed. Tyndale NT Commentaries. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980.

Cranfield, C. E. B. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*. 2 vols. International Critical Commentary (new series). Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1975, 1979.

Dodd, C. H. *The Epistle of Paul to the Romans*. Moffat NT Commentary. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1932.

Dunn, James D. *Romans 1-8*. Word Biblical Commentary, 38A. Dallas: Word, 1988.

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Hendriksen, W. *Exposition of Paul's Epistle to the Romans*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.

Moo, Douglas, *The Epistle to the Romans*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Morris, L. *Epistle to the Romans*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

Moxnes, Halor. *Theology in Conflict: Studies of Paul's Understanding of God in Romans*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1980.

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Nygren, A. *Commentary on Romans*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1949.

Sanday, W. and Arthur Headlam. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*. 5th edition. International Critical Commentary. T. & T. Clark, 1902.

Stowers, Stanley K. *A Rereading Romans: Justice, Jews, and Gentiles*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994.

Paul

Bornkamm, G. *Paul*. Trans. D. M. G. Stalker. New York: Harper & Row, 1971.

Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977.

Davies, W. D. *Paul and Rabbinic Judaism: Some Rabbinic Elements in Pauline Theology*. 4th ed. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1980.

Dunn, James D.G. *Jesus, Paul, and the Law: Studies in Mark and Galatians*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1990.

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Furnish, V. P. *Theology and Ethics in Paul*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1968.

Hanson, A. T. *Studies in Paul's Technique and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974.

Longenecker, R. N. *Paul: Apostle of Liberty*. New York: Harper and Row, 1964.

Munck, J. *Paul and the Salvation of Mankind*. Atlanta: John Knox, 1977 (paper back ed.).

Ridderbos, H. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975.

Sanders, E. P. *Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1977.

_____. *Paul, the Law and the Jewish People*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1983.

Schoeps, H. J. *Paul: The Theology of the Apostle in the Light of Jewish Religious History*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1959.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Benny C. Aker, June, 2005